

DD / S REGISTER  
FILE *Security 4*

Mr. Helms

STAT [ ] had originally  
thought that a single paper was to be prepared  
STAT incorporating data assembled by [ ] and the  
summary of the Security Committee report. [ ]  
STAT returned the OS paper to [ ] indicating DD/I  
judgment that it should be submitted separately from  
the material in the memorandum to Mr. Ehrlichman  
which you sent on Tuesday. The attached was prepared  
on the assumption you wish to send a second paper.

(signed) John W. Coffey

John W. Coffey

19 AUG 1971

DD/S:JWC:maq

Distribution:

- Orig - DCI w/O & 3 ccys DD/S 71-3308 and O & 6 ccys DD/S 71-3309 (by hand maq to Eliz)  
1 - DD/S Subject w/ccy DD/S 71-3308 and ccy DD/S 71-3309  
1 - DD/S Chrono

DD/S 71-3308 Memo dtd 19 Aug 71 for DCI fr A-D/Sec, subj: Unauthorized  
Disclosures in the News Media

DD/S 71-3309 Proposed Memo dtd 20 AUG 1971 for Mr. John D. Ehrlichman fr  
Richard Helms, subj: Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media

**SECRET**

19 AUG 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
THROUGH : Deputy Director for Support  
SUBJECT : Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media

1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the DCI; such action is contained in paragraph 3.
2. The attached memorandum contains a general summary of the USIB Security Committee volume, "Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media," which was requested by David Young of the White House last week. The summary was prepared by this Office pursuant to your instruction to the Director of Security that the volume itself not be released outside the Agency.
3. It is recommended that you sign the attached memorandum.

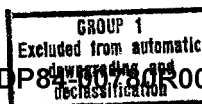


Acting Director of Security

25X1

Attachment

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**SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media**

**Distribution:**

**Orig - Return to OS via DD/S**

**1 - DDCI**

**1 - ER**

**2 - DD/S**

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20 AUG 1971

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John D. Ehrlichman**  
**Special Assistant to the President**  
**for Domestic Affairs**

**SUBJECT : Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media**

I attach a summary of the USIB Security Committee volume,  
"Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media" as requested by  
Mr. David Young last week.

*B Dick*

**Richard Helms**  
**Director**

**Attachment**

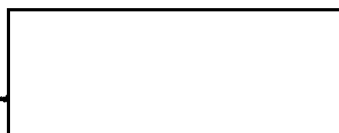
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GROUP 1  
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downgrading and  
declassification

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**SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media**

**ORIGINATOR:**



**Acting Director of Security**

**19 AUG 1971**

**Date**

**CONCURRENCE:**

**(signed) John W. Coffey**

**19 AUG 1971**

**John W. Coffey  
Deputy Director  
for Support**

**Date**

**Distribution**

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**1 -DCI**

**1 -DDCI**

**1 -ER**

**② -DD/S**

**1 -AD/Security**

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**SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media**

1. The problem of unauthorized disclosures in the news media has been a source of serious concern to the intelligence community for the past decade and to the Director of Central Intelligence, who is charged with the responsibility for the protection of intelligence sources and methods under the authority of the National Security Act of 1947.

2. Recently, there has been a sharp increase in the number of unauthorized disclosures, especially in the fields of compartmented intelligence. During this period the greatest number of leaks originated with reporters whose articles appeared in The Washington Post and The New York Times.

3. As a result, in 1970 the matter of unauthorized disclosures in the news media was the subject of a thorough re-examination by the Security Committee of the United States Intelligence Board. The Security Committee subsequently originated a mechanism whereby immediate investigation of unauthorized disclosures was accomplished only to find, as in the past, that the documents involved had been so widely disseminated that investigation and interviews with the recipients of the classified source material remained a fruitless task. Further, successful investigation of the sources of such disclosures was again severely circumscribed by the implications involved in possible charges that the United States Government was investigating the news media.

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4. As in the past, it was the unanimous conviction of the Chairman and the Members of the Security Committee that effective corrective action in the area of unauthorized disclosures could be implemented by:

a. the Security Committee being authorized to conduct complete investigations which would lead to the identity of a person or persons responsible for an unauthorized disclosure;

b. taking appropriate disciplinary action in a just, clear, and definite manner which would demonstrate the extreme seriousness with which unauthorized disclosures are viewed, and most importantly,

c. bringing the prestige and the power of the Office of the President to bear on the problem.

5. On the 21st of December 1970 President Nixon outlined in a memorandum sent to the Director and other addressees, his concern over the increasing proliferation of sensitive intelligence data through the news media.

6. The President, noting the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence for the protection of intelligence sources and methods, charged him with providing guidance in this field, especially through the machinery of the intelligence community. Subsequently, the DCI, as a result of discussions held in executive session on 22 April 1971 within the framework of the United States Intelligence Board, immediately promulgated agreed upon "Guidance Governing Disclosures of Classified Intelligence," which had also received the concurrence of all addressees of the President's memorandum of 21 December 1970.

7. In a companion report to the President, Mr. Helms noted that he had asked the United States Board Principals to make particular efforts to assure that in the case of releases of sensitive and specially-compartmented intelligence the

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appropriate member of the community be consulted as to potential damage, and that he was requesting periodic reports from them on measures taken within their respective agencies and departments to implement these guidelines.

8. On the 4th of June 1971 the Director of Central Intelligence set forth his thoughts in a memorandum to multiple addressees of the intelligence community wherein he expressed his growing concern with the increasing resort to public disclosure of classified information despite the President's injunction of 21 December 1970 urging caution in the public release of classified data. Mr. Helms stated that the frequency of such disclosures had reached alarming levels and furnished the addressees with a compendium of twenty-two (22) disclosures which had appeared in the press in little over a four-month period--18 January through 27 May 1971. Mr. Helms stressed that the flood of public disclosures of classified information gives the USSR and other foreign powers keen insights into the capabilities and limitations of our intelligence system and tends to undermine the attitude toward security at all levels of Government. He again requested the cooperation of the intelligence community in eliminating any further public disclosures which can only damage the U. S. intelligence posture.

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b. taking appropriate disciplinary action in a just, clear, and definite manner which would demonstrate the extreme seriousness with which unauthorized disclosures are viewed, and most importantly,

c. bringing the prestige and the power of the Office of the President to bear on the problem.

5. On the 21st of December 1970 President Nixon outlined in a memorandum prepared for the intelligence community and including the Attorney General, the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and others, his concern over the increasing proliferation of sensitive intelligence data through the news media.

6. The President, noting the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence for the protection of intelligence sources and methods, charged him with providing guidance in this field, especially through the machinery of the intelligence community. Subsequently, the DCI, as a result of discussions held in executive session on 22 April 1971 within the framework of the United States Intelligence Board, immediately promulgated agreed upon "Guidance Governing Disclosures of Classified Intelligence," which had also received the concurrence of all addressees of the President's memorandum of 21 December 1970.

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